



Interested in reducing energy costs on your farm? Here's how to get started.

1. Sign up for the Farm Energy Discount program:

As an agricultural producer, you may be eligible for a 10% discount on electric & gas rates. A two-page application is available on the MDAR website (<http://www.mass.gov/agr/admin/farmenergy.htm>) or contact Linda Demirjian, Office Manager, MDAR, at (617) 626-1733.

2. Get an energy audit :

INVESTOR-OWNED Utility Customers (like WMECO, NGRID)

- First, contact your investor-owned utility (electric or natural gas – [contact information on reverse](#)) about their audit and incentive program, which might offer energy audits/assessments as well as financial incentives for energy efficiency measures. Details at <http://www.berkshirepioneerccd.org/mfep/energy.php>
- If your electric and/or gas utility programs do not address the majority of your energy needs, apply for an audit and/or incentive through the MFEP Audits & Incentives Program. Details at <http://www.berkshirepioneerccd.org/mfep/energy.php>

MUNICIPAL Utility Customers

- First, contact your provider because you may have access to a fee-for-service energy audit. Go to <http://www.berkshirepioneerccd.org/mfep/energy.php> for more information.
- If your municipal utility does not address the majority of your energy needs, apply for an audit and/or incentive through the MFEP Audits & Incentives Program. Details at <http://www.berkshirepioneerccd.org/mfep/energy.php>

3. Explore funding for your project (MFEP can help with referrals and assistance):

- **MFEP Audits and Incentives Program.** The MFEP is accepting applications from farmers across Massachusetts interested in receiving energy audits and implementing the recommendations of the audits. The MFEP will make referrals to existing audit and incentive programs, provide “targeted” energy audits and/or renewable energy assessments, and provide up to \$7,500 in financial incentives for implementation of audit recommendations. Go to <http://www.berkshirepioneerccd.org/mfep/forms/application.php> to apply.
- **MA Department of Ag Resources:** The MDAR Energy Efficiency, Conservation & Renewables Program administers a variety of grants including the Massachusetts Agricultural Energy Grant. Details at <http://www.mass.gov/agr/programs/aegp/index.htm>. Deadlines are usually in the spring.
- **Mass Clean Energy Center (MassCEC)** Programs include: Commonwealth Solar 2 which includes the Solar RPS Carve-Out, or Solar Credit program, the Commonwealth Solar Hot Water Commercial Program, and the Commonwealth Wind Incentive Program, providing rebate, grant, and loan funding for installation of wind projects. For details contact MassCEC at (617) 315-9355 or <http://www.masscec.com/>.
- **USDA/NRCS EQIP Program:** EQIP offers audits and financial compensation for the cost of implementing practices that reduce pollution and greenhouse emissions. Payments are available to qualified farmers for energy efficiency upgrades for maple (steam pans, higher efficiency evaporators and reverse osmosis systems), and greenhouses (shade screens and high efficiency heating systems). More information can be found at <http://www.ma.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/airquality/>
- **USDA/Rural Development REAP Program:** Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) provides funding for renewable energy systems and energy efficiency improvements to farmers and rural small businesses. Learn more about REAP at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/farmbill/index.html>. The MA Farm Energy Program offers grant writing assistance to farmers and forest products businesses for this program. To apply for grant writing assistance go to http://www.berkshirepioneerccd.org/mfep/forms/grant_writing_req.php

4. Stay in touch with MA Farm Energy Program

Go to the MA Farm Energy Program pages at <http://www.berkshirepioneerccd.org/mfep/index.php> to get the latest information about the Mass Farm Energy Program, or contact us with your questions.

– See reverse for additional contact information –

For general information and support ...

<http://berkshirepioneercd.org/mfep/index.php>

Massachusetts Farm Energy Program

Online at <http://berkshirepioneercd.org/mfep/index.php>.

By phone: 413-256-1607

By email: Jess Cook, Program Manager, jesscook@berkshirepioneercd.org or Layla Hazen, Program Asst., mfep@berkshirepioneercd.org

By mail: c/o **Berkshire-Pioneer Resource Conservation & Development**, 9 Research Drive Suite 5, Amherst MA 01002

Massachusetts Dept. of Agriculture - Energy Efficiency, Conservation & Renewables Program

Online at <http://www.mass.gov/agr/programs/aegp/index.htm>

By phone: 617-626-1706

By email: Gerry Palano, Renewable Energy Coordinator, gerald.palano@state.ma.us

By mail: MDAR, 251 Causeway St., Suite 500, Boston MA 02114

For investor-owned utility audit & incentive programs ...

Cape Light Compact: To request an energy audit for your farming operation, contact Nicole Price, Superior Court House, PO Box 427, Barnstable, MA 02630, nprice@capelightcompact.org 508-375-6886, fax 508-362-4136

Columbia Gas: Terry Avedisian, Commercial and Industrial Division, 300 Friberg Parkway, Westborough, MA 01581, tavedisian@nisource.com, 508-836-7388

Berkshire Gas: Robert Gyurjan, 115 Cheshire Rd., Pittsfield, MA 01201, rgyurjan@berkshiregas.com, 413-445-0345

National Grid: To request an energy audit for your farming operation, contact Richard Drury, 40 Sylvan Rd., Waltham MA 02451, richardadrury@gmail.com

NSTAR Electric & Gas: To request an electric energy audit for your farming operation, contact Augustine Pimentel, One NSTAR Way, SW 360, Westwood MA 02090, augustine.pimentel@nstar.com, 781-441-8705 or 339-987-7568. To get information about incentives on installing gas equipment contact Paul Degnan, Paul.Degnan@NSTAR.com, 781-441-8997

UNITIL/Fitchburg Gas & Electric: Ed Mailloux, 6 Liberty Lane W., Hampton NH 03842, mailloux@unitil.com, 603-773-6541

Western MA Electric Co (WMECO): To request an energy audit for lighting or refrigeration contact Kim Kiernan at the Small Business Program, kiernk@nu.com, 413-787-9275. For custom audits for other types of energy efficiency upgrades contact Jim Rutherford at the Custom Commercial Program, ruthejk@nu.com.

For funding ...

MA Farm Energy Program (energy efficiency & renewable energy)

For information about MFEP's Audit and Incentives program go to <http://www.berkshirepioneercd.org/mfep/energy.php> or call us at 413-256-1607.

MA Dept. of Ag Resources (energy efficiency & renewable energy)

AgEnergy Grant Program: Contact Gerry Palano, 617-626-1706, Gerald.Palano@state.ma.us or Laura Maul, 617-626-1739, Laura.Maul@state.ma.us or visit <http://www.mass.gov/agr/programs/aegp/index.htm>

Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (renewable energy)

Elizabeth Kennedy at ekennedy@masscec.com, 716-315-9321, 75 North Drive, Westborough MA 01581

USDA/Rural Development (energy efficiency & renewable energy)

To identify the USDA/Rural Development contact in your area go to: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/farbill/index.html>

The Massachusetts Farm Energy Program is a statewide program that receives funding and technical support from the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources. The program is administered by Berkshire-Pioneer Resource Conservation and Development Area, Inc.